

CHAPTER 99
WILD TURKEY FALL HUNTING

571—99.1(481A) General. Wild turkey may be taken only by Iowa residents during the fall season subject to the following:

99.1(1) License. When hunting wild turkey, all hunters must have in possession a valid fall wild turkey hunting license and a valid hunting license and habitat stamp if normally required to have them. While hunting wild turkey, no person shall carry or have in possession a fall wild turkey hunting license or transportation tag issued to another person. Turkey hunting licenses will be issued by zone and period and will be valid only in the designated zone and for the designated period. Except as provided in 99.4(1), no person shall apply for or obtain more than one fall wild turkey combination shotgun-or-archery hunting license and one fall wild turkey archery-only hunting license.

99.1(2) Seasons. Wild turkey of any age or sex may be taken only during specified periods as follows:

a. Combination shotgun-or-archery season. The dates for the combination shotgun-or-archery season shall be from the Monday following the second Saturday in October through November 30 of the same year.

b. Archery-only. The dates for the fall archery-only wild turkey hunting season shall be the same as the dates for the archery deer season as defined in 571—Chapter 106.

99.1(3) Daily possession and season limits. The daily, season, and possession bag limit is one wild turkey per license.

99.1(4) Shooting hours.

a. Combination shotgun-or-archery season. Shooting hours shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset each day.

b. Archery-only season. Shooting hours shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

571—99.2(481A) Areas open to hunting. Wild turkey, according to the type of license issued, may be taken in specific areas only.

99.2(1) Combination shotgun-or-archery season. Wild turkey may be taken only in hunting zones described as follows:

a. Zone 1. Zone 1 is that portion of Stephens State Forest west of U.S. Highway 65 in Lucas and Clarke Counties.

b. Zone 2. Zone 2 is the Shimek State Forest in Lee and Van Buren Counties.

c. Zone 3. Zone 3 is that portion of the Yellow River State Forest in Allamakee County.

d. Zone 4. Zone 4 is that portion of Iowa bounded on the north by Interstate Highway 80 and on the west by U.S. Highway 59.

e. Zone 5. Zone 5 is that portion of Iowa bounded on the east by U.S. Highway 59 and on the north by U.S. Highway 20.

f. Zone 6. Zone 6 is that portion of Iowa bounded on the south by Interstate Highway 80 and on the west by U.S. Highway 218 from the Minnesota border to U.S. Highway 14 at Charles City, U.S. Highway 14 to U.S. Highway 20, Highway 20 east to U.S. Highway 63 and U.S. Highway 63 to Interstate Highway 80.

g. Zone 7. Zone 7 is that portion of Iowa bounded on the north by U.S. Highway 20, on the west by U.S. Highway 59, on the south by Interstate Highway 80 and on the east by U.S. Highway 63.

99.2(2) *Exceptions.* Licenses issued for Zone 1 and Zone 2 shall also be valid in Zone 4; licenses issued for Zone 3 shall also be valid in Zone 6.

99.2(3) *Archery-only season.* Wild turkey may be taken on an archery-only license statewide.

571—99.3(481A) Means and method of take.

99.3(1) *Permitted weapons.* In accordance with the type of license issued, wild turkey may be taken only with shotguns and muzzleloading shotguns not smaller than 20-gauge and shooting 4, 5, 6, 7½, or 8 shot only, or with recurve, compound or longbows with broadhead or blunt head arrows only (with a minimum diameter of 9/16 inch), except as otherwise provided in 571—15.5(483A). Arrows with chemical or explosive pods are not permitted.

99.3(2) *Prohibited devices.* The use of live decoys, dogs, horses, motorized vehicles, aircraft, bait and the use or aid of recorded or electronically amplified bird calls or sounds, or recorded or electronically amplified imitations of bird calls or sounds is prohibited, except that paraplegics and single or double amputees of the legs may hunt from any stationary motor-driven land conveyance. “Paraplegic” means an individual afflicted with paralysis of the lower half of the body with the involvement of both legs, usually due to disease of or injury to the spinal cord. “Bait” means grain, fruit, vegetables, nuts or any other natural food materials; commercial products containing natural food materials; or by-products of such materials transported to or placed in an area for the intent of attracting wildlife.

571—99.4(481A) Application procedure. All applications for wild turkey fall hunting licenses must be made on forms provided by the department of natural resources and returned to the Department of Natural Resources, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0035, with the proper license fee. Individual applications only will be accepted. Nonresidents may not apply for or obtain any fall wild turkey hunting license.

99.4(1) *Applications for combination shotgun-or-archery licenses.* Applications for paid combination shotgun-or-archery hunting licenses shall be received and accepted for 15 working days beginning the first Monday in July, or if the application form bears a valid and legible U.S. Postal Service postmark during the same period. No person shall submit more than one application. At the end of the period, if applications have been received in excess of the license quota for any hunting zone and license type, the department of natural resources shall conduct a drawing to determine which applicants shall receive licenses. Incomplete or improperly completed applications, applications not meeting the above conditions, or applications received prior to or after the application period shall not be considered valid applications for the drawing. If the quota for any hunting period, zone or license type has not been filled by applications received during the first application period, licenses shall then be issued in the order in which applications are received for 5 working days beginning the third Monday in August and shall continue to be issued until the quota has been met or until the end of the second application period, whichever occurs first. Residents who have obtained one combination shotgun-or-archery license may obtain one additional combination shotgun-or-archery license during the second application period if licenses are still available.

99.4(2) *Applications for archery-only licenses.* Applications for fall wild turkey archery-only hunting licenses will be received at any time beginning the first Monday in July. The number of archery-only licenses will not be restricted.

99.4(3) *Special turkey hunting licenses.* Applications for special wild turkey hunting licenses, as provided for in Iowa Code section 481A.38, subsection 3, shall be on forms furnished by the department and shall be received at the department offices from the first Monday in July to the end of the combination shotgun-or-archery second application period.

99.4(4) *Landowner-tenant licenses.* The application period for free landowner-tenant licenses shall be from the first Monday in July to the end of the combination shotgun-or-archery second application period. Free landowner-tenant shotgun-or-archery licenses are valid only for that portion of the farm unit that lies within a zone open for hunting as defined in 99.2(481A). Free landowner-tenant archery licenses are valid on farm units statewide. No landowner or tenant may obtain both a free combination shotgun-or-archery license and a paid combination shotgun-or-archery license, except that persons obtaining a free landowner or tenant license may obtain a paid license in the same manner that a nonlandowner or tenant obtains a second paid license, as provided in 99.4(1).

571—99.5(481A) License quotas. A limited number of wild turkey hunting licenses will be issued to residents in the zones as follows:

1. Zone 1. 50
2. Zone 2. 50
3. Zone 3. 50
4. Zone 4. 2,000
5. Zone 5. 300
6. Zone 6. 3,000
7. Zone 7. 200

571—99.6(481A) Transportation tag. A transportation tag bearing license number of licensee, year of issuance and date of kill properly shown shall be visibly attached to the carcass of each wild turkey in such a manner that the tag cannot be removed without mutilating or destroying the tag before the carcass can be transported from the place of kill. The tag shall be proof of possession of the carcass by the licensee.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, 481A.48 and 483A.7.

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